

Life Cycle of a Snowflake



1



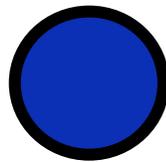
A snowflake begins with a speck.
The speck comes from pollen or
dust floating in a cloud

2



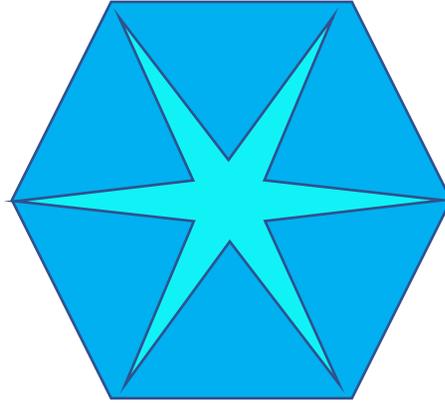
Water vapor sticks to
the speck, making a
water droplet.

3



The droplet freezes into a ball of ice. More
water vapor sticks to the ball of ice and
grows into an ice crystal.

4



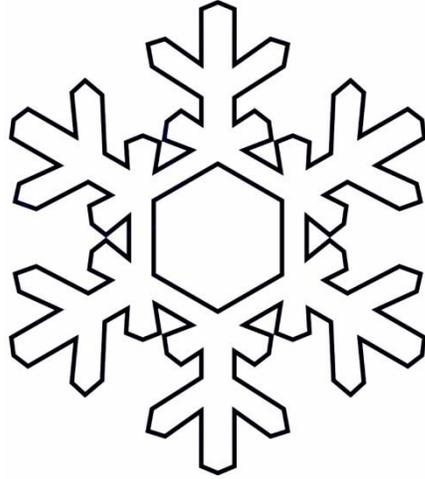
Faster growth on the corners results in six branches of the snowflake.

5



The branches continue to grow and add little arms.

6



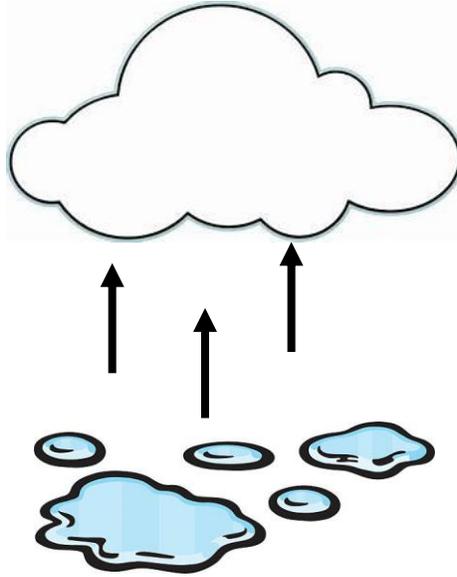
The shape depends on the temperature and how wet the cloud is.

7



As a snowflake grows bigger and heavier, the snowflake begins to fall out of the cloud.

8



When the snow melts, the water evaporates and the life cycle of a snowflake starts over!

9



On the next snowy day, go outside and investigate the snowflakes falling from the sky!



10